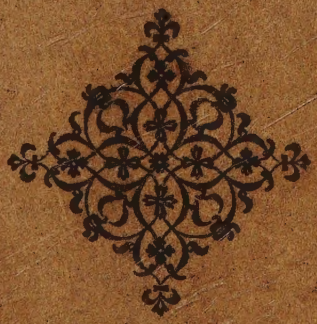
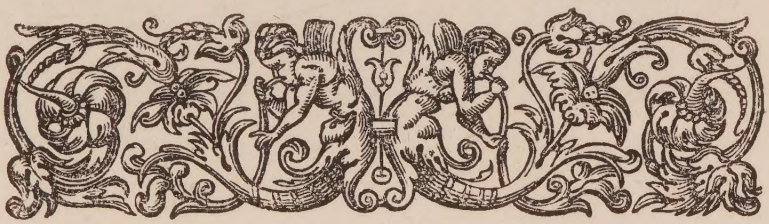
HUNTING OF AN HARE.



W. H. Dalton, Cockſpur Street.

Turberville, G

OF THE HUNTING OF THE HARE.



Of the Hunting of the *Hare*.

Inter quadrupedes mattea prima Lepus.
MART. Lib. xiii. Ep. 92.

LONDON:
W. H. Dalton, Cockſpur Street.
1847.

Preface.

THE ſimplicity of the following Extract from an old work called "The book of Falconrie," *by* Turbervile, *printed in* 1611, *may draw forth a ſmile from the caſual reader; but a Sportſman who peruſes it will find himſelf in company with a true obſerver of nature, and though he may fancy that*

that he learns nothing new, it will be becauſe Hares *are not like Men and have no new faſhions, their ſubtilties and tricks for ſelf-preſervation have always been the ſame; it cannot, however, fail to be an advantage to him to be reminded of the neceſſity of treating every kind of hunting as a ſcience, a purſuit which requires method, one in which ſucceſs ſhould bring no pleaſure, victory no triumph with it, unleſs in the attainment there have been difficulties to overcome.*

My

My Author introduces ſome quaint rules and notions, which I do not at all ſay ſhould be neceſſarily adopted by my Hare-*hunting acquaintance, but theſe are far out-balanced by what is true and uſeful. Of ſuch acquaintance I am happy to think I have a very extended circle, and it is for their amuſement I have copied out the following pages: to one amongſt them I ſhould more eſpecially dedicate this Extract; I knew him at ſchool and at College ſome* 30 *years back, but time has paſſed only*

only to prove him a ſtaunch friend and a keen Sportſman, and I ſhall fancy I hear his well known, never yet reſtrained, laugh, when he is reading the inſtructions that follow.

S.

July, 1847.

Of the Hunting of an HARE.

I am an *Hare*, a beaſt of little ſtrength
Yet making ſport, of lone and gentle geſts,
For running ſwift and holding out at length
I beare the bell above all other beaſts.

Of the Properties of an Hare, *and how to know the male from the female.*

I WILL begin with the vertues and properties of an *Hare*, the which be very great and many, having conſideration to the greatneſs and littleneſs of her. Firſt,

Firſt, the blood of an *Hare* is a ſore dryer, and if you do anoynt therewith any itching place, or a ringworm, it will dry it up and heale it. The *Hare* hath a little bone in a joynt of her hinder leg called the Styfling bone, which is very good for the Collicke and the Crampe. Her ſkin burnt to powder or her downy ſoft haire, is a ſoveraigne medicine to ſtanch blood. The *Hare* firſt taught us the uſe of the hearbe called wyld Succory, which is very excellent for thoſe which are inclined to be melancollicke: ſhe herſelfe is one of the moſt melancholicke beaſts that is: and to heale her own infirmities ſhe goeth commonly to ſit under that hearbe: Whereupon it hath been called in times paſt *Pallatius Leporis*, that is to ſay, the *Hare's* Pallaice.

The

The *Hare* doth naturally know the change of weather from 24 hours to four-and-twenty hours. When ſhe goeth to her forme ſhee will not let the dew or wet touch her as neare as ſhee can, but followeth the high wayes and beaten pathes, and breaketh the high ſtalks as ſhe goeth with her teeth. And becauſe ſome hares by hunting the lowe watry places, do become foule and meſſed, ſuch hares doe never follow the hard ways, nor make ſuch paths to their formes, but uſe all their ſubtilties and policies by the ſides of rivers, brooks and other waters. And you ſhall underſtand, that the females are not ſo commonly foule and meaſled, as the males are, and therefore a huntſ-man may judge by the relief and feed of the *Hare* what ſhe is and which way ſhe

ſhe formeth. They go to Bucke commonly in January, February and March. Sometimes they ſeek the Bucke ſeven or eight miles from the place where they uſe to ſit, following the beaten high waies, as ſhall be hereafter declared. A Bucke *Hare* will abide the hounds nearer to him when he ſitteth, than the female will, becauſe he feeleth himſelfe quicker, and his body better diſpoſed and hardier. If when a *Hare* riſeth out of the forme, ſhe ſet up her eares, and run not very faſt at the firſt, and caſt up her ſkut upon her backe, it is a token that it is an old and crafty *Hare*. Although ſome ſay that there is no judgement of difference betweene the male and the female *Hares*, yet have I found the contrary: For the male *Hare* maketh his Croteys always ſmaller

ſmaller and dryer, and more ſharpened towards the end. The female maketh them greater and rounder and not ſo dry. And the cauſe is that the female relieveth not ſo far out a nights, and is greater of body, which cauſeth her to make the greateſt Croteys alſo. You ſhall know a bucke as you hunt him to the forme: for you ſhall find that he hath more beaten the hard high waies, and feedeth further out into the plaines, and maketh his doublings and croſſings much wyder, and of greater compaſſe than the female doth. For ſhe will keep cloſe by ſome covert's ſide, turning and winding in the buſhes like a coney. And if ſhe goe to reliefe in the Corne fields, ſhe will not lightly croſſe over the furrowes, but followeth them all along, and ſtayeth much upon the

the thickeſt tufts of corne to feed: neither is ſhee ſatisfied by feeding her belly full, but ſhreds the corn and ſcattreth as ſhe goeth. Likewiſe you may know a Bucke at riſing out of the forme, for he hath his hinder parts much more whitely, as if he were grey or downy: or you ſhall know him if you mark his ſhoulders well before he riſe, for they are redder than the female *Hares* be, and will have ſome looſe, long haires growing on them. Again you may know him by his head, which is ſhorter and better truſſed than the female is. The haires about his lips and cheekes, are longer, and commonly his eares ſhorter, greater and more whitely. The female hath a long and leane head, her eares long, the haire upon the back blackiſh grey. And commonly

monly when hounds hunt a female *Hare*, ſhe will uſe more croſſing, doubling, and turning before them, paſſing 7 or 8 times one way, and never maketh out endways before the hounds. The male doth contrary: for if hounds run him, and that he have once made a turne or two about his forme, then farewell hounds: for he will lead them ſometimes 3 or 4 myles endways before he turn the head, and that lightly into ſome waſt where he hath been in times paſt, and from whence he hath been chaſed and hunted. For an *Hare* will go 7 or 8 myles endways at once, and you may know when a *Hare* is ſo come from farre by this meanes.

When you ſee your hounds find where a *Hare* hath paſt at reliefe, upon the high

high waies ſides, and hath much doubled and croſſed upon dry places, and never much broken out nor relieved in the corne, it is a token ſhe is but lately come into thoſe quarters: and then commonly ſhe will ſtay upon ſome high place, to look about her, to chooſe ſome place to forme in, and alſo the better to ſave herſelfe if ſhe perceive either hounds or anything elſe that follows or meets her. Or you may always know, becauſe commonly *Hares* which ſtray ſo, do make their forme cloſe, becauſe they are in doubt and dread; and when the hounds find them and put them up, they breake and double, turning back towards their forme: becauſe it grieveth them to part from it, knowing not the country. And when they perceive that the hounds hold into them, then they

they returne by the ſame wayes that they came. By theſe tokens you may know a *Hare* that is a paſſenger which may chance to lead your Hounds a luſty daunce after her.

Of the Subtilties of a Hare, *when ſhe is runne and hunted.*

I MIGHT well maintaine that of all chaſes, the *Hare* maketh greateſt paſtime and pleaſure, and ſheweth moſt running in hunting— and is meeteſt for gentlemen of all other huntings, for that they may find them at all times, and hunt them at moſt ſeaſons of the year, and that with ſmall charges. And againe, becauſe their paſtime ſhall be alwaies in ſight, whereby they may judge of the good-

neſs

neſs of their hounds, without great paines and travell. Alſo it is great pleaſure to behold the ſubtilties of the little poore beaſt; and what ſhifte ſhe can make for her ſelfe. Wherefore the huntſmen muſt be wary and wiſe to marke her ſubtilties, the which I have practiſed much, and therefore I am the bolder to ſet down in writing ſuch experiences as I have ſeen, knowne and made. Firſt the huntſman which ſhall be next the hounds, ſhall look and marke many things when the *Hare* riſeth out of her forme. As firſt what weather it is. For if it be rainy weather, then the *Hare* will hold the high wayes more than at any other time. And if ſhe come to the ſide of any young ſpring or grove, ſhe will not lightly go in, but will conveye herſelf, and

and ſquat under the ſide thereof, until the hounds have overſhot her: and ſhe will return the ſelfe ſame way that ſhe came, unto the place where ſhe was ſtart or put uppe, for ſhe will not willingly go into any covert, becauſe of the dewe and wette which hangeth upon the lowe twigges. In ſuch a caſe the huntſman ſhall doe well to tarie and ſtay an hundred paces before he come to the wood ſides, and then he ſhall ſee her if ſhe come right backe as before ſaid. Then may he hallowe in his hounds and call them backe: for elſe it would be hard to make it out. When a *Hare* doth ſo as before ſayd, becauſe an hound will hardly believe that the *Hare* were gone directly backwards, therefore the huntſman ſhall doe well to hallow them in before they go any further:

further: for elſe they will rather judge it to be the counter as ſhe came firſt. Next, the huntſman muſt marke in what place the *Hare* ſitteth, and upon what wind ſhe made her forme. For if ſhe forme eyther upon the North wind, or upon the South wind, ſhe will not willingly runne into the wind, but will run upon a ſide wind, or elſe downe the wind. Alſo, if an *Hare* do forme in the water, it is a ſign ſhe is foul and meſſed. In hunting of ſuch an *Hare*, lett the huntſman take good heed all the day unto the Brook ſides, for ſuch an *Hare* will make all her croſſings, doublings, &c. upon brook ſides and plaſhes. Agayne, a huntſman muſt marke whether it be a bucke *Hare* or a female, and whether ſhe be wonted to the place where ſhe ſat, or a paſſenger:

ger: the which he may know by ſuch obſervations as I have before rehearſed: for doubtleſſe a *Hare* which is bred, and wonted to a certaine place, and eſpecially a female *Hare*, (if a huntſman do marke the firſt way that ſhe bendeth, or the firſt compaſſe that ſhe bendeth when ſhe parteth firſt from the forme) will all the day long hold the ſame wayes, and caſt about the ſame coſtes, and paſſe through the ſame muſes untill her death or eſcape: unleſs it be as I ſaid, ſome Bucke which be come from ſome other place, or that the hounds run him ſo harde, that he be enforced to make out endwayes before the hounds, and ſo to go out of his haunt, the which they will all do commonly, by that time that they be well runne two hours without defaulte. But

at

at the firſt they will doe (in manner) nothing elſe but turne, croſſe and double, paſſing fyve or ſix times one way, and in one ſelfe ſame path. And you muſt underſtand, that if you looſe an *Hare* at any time, let the huntſman yet remember and marke which pathes ſhe bette, and what way ſhe coaſted: for another time if you find the ſame *Hare*, ſhe will doubtleſs keep the ſame places, and make the like croſſings, doublings, &c. And by that means you ſhall prevent her ſubtilties, and muſt helpe the hounds in knowing which way ſhe will bend. I have ſeen a *Hare* ſo crafty, that as ſoone as ſhe heard the ſound of an horne, ſhe would riſe out of her forme, yea, had ſhe been formed a quarter of a myle diſtant from the huntſman that blewe, and would ſtraight way goe

ſwimme

ſwimme in ſome poole, and abide there upon ſome ruſhbed, before the hounds came at her, or hunted her at all. But at the laſt I diſcovered her ſubtilties, for I went cloſe alongſt by the poole to ſee what might become of her, and uncoupled my hounds where I ſuſpected ſhe ſhould be, and as ſoon as ever ſhe heard the horne, ſhe ſtart and leapt before my face into the poole, and ſwam to another bed in the midſt thereof, and neither with ſtone nor clodde that I could throwe at her, would ſhe riſe nor ſtirre: Untill I was fayne to ſtrip off my clothes, and ſwymme to her: yea, and ſhe taryed me almoſt, untyl I laid my hande upon her before ſhe would ſtyre. But at the laſt, ſhe ſwomme out and came by the houndes, and ſtood uppe afterwards three hours before we could

could kill her—ſwimming and uſing all her croſſing and ſubtilties in the water. I have alſo ſeen an *Hare* run and ſtand up before a kennell of hounds, and then ſhe hath ſtarted and rayſed another freſh *Hare* out of her forme, and ſet herſelf downe therein. I have ſeen other againe, ſwimme over two or three waters, the leaſt whereof hath been fourſcore Taylor's yards over. I have ſeen ſome again, which being run well for the ſpace of two hours or more, have crept under the doore of a ſheepcote, and hyde herſelfe amongſt the ſheepe. And I have ſeen *Hares* oftentimes runne into a flocke of ſheep in the field where they were hunted, and would never leave the flocke, until I was forced to couple up my hounds, and fold up the ſheepe, or ſometimes drive them to the cote :

cote: and then the *Hare* would forſake them, and I uncoupled my hounds at her againe and killed her. I have ſeen that would take the ground like the Coney, (which is called going to the Vault) when they have been hunted. I have ſeen a *Hare* go up by one ſide of a hedge, and come down by that other ſide, in ſuch ſort, that there was no more but the thickneſſe of the hedge betweene them. I have ſeene an *Hare* being ſore runne, get up upon an old wall ſix foote heighth from the ground, and ſquat or hyde herſelf in the hole that was made for a ſcaffolde. I have ſeen ſome ſwim over a brooke eight yards broad, more than twenty times within the length of an hundred paces, and that in my ſight; (and ſome have ſwome over rivers twelve ſcore broad, as *Severne*,

verne, *Trent*, and ſuch like, divers times together.) For theſe cauſes the huntſman muſt be wary and circumſpect in hunting the *Hare*. For a hound which is a perfect good Haryer, may be bold to hunt any chace, for the *Hare* is the very proper beaſt to enter hounds well and to make them tender noſed. But afterwards, when you would make your hounds to the *Hart*, they will quickly forſake the *Hare*, becauſe the veniſon of an *Hart* is much more delicate and dainty than the *Hare's* is: and hounds do much more deſire it, becauſe the *Hart* is alſo of greater ſcent than the *Hare*. A *Hare* liveth not above ſeven years at the moſt, eſpecially the Bucke. They are of this propertie, that if there be a Bucke and a female which keep one quarter commonly together, they will

will never ſuffer any ſtrange *Hare* to ſit by them, nor to abide neare them, unleſſe it be their own young ones. And therefore hath it been an old ſaying, 'that the more you hunt the more *Hares* you ſhall have, becauſe when an *Hare* is killed, there will ſoone come other from ſome other quarter.'

How to enter young Houndes *to the* Hare.

FIRST, in hunting the *Hare*, I would not have you to have above two or three huntſmen at the moſt, whereof one ſhall take charge to rate and beat on ſuch hounds as byde plodding behind: and the other ſhall make them ſeeke and caſt about. For if there be many huntſmen they ſhall

ſhall foyle the traces and footing of the *Hare*, or at leaſt will amaze the hounds (with the variety of their voices) when they are at default. For an *Hare* maketh ſometimes ſo many doubles, croſſings, &c. that an hound cannot well tell where he is, nor which way to make it out, nor will do any thing elſe (in manner) but hold up their heads and looke to the Huntſman for help and comfort. Then let the huntſman caſt about a compaſſe, where they came firſt at default, and encourage them, the which he cannot ſo well do, if the other huntſmen have beaten and foyled the trace with their feet or the feet of their horſes. And he which hunteth formoſt, ſhould carry with him a good big wallet of linnen cloth full of dainty morſels, to give his hounds, to the end that

that they may know him. For above all things it is meet, that an hound ſhould know his maſter and huntſman, his voice, and his home: and when it commeth to the Hallow, they will ſooner come into his voice, than to another man's, and will leave all others to come unto him: therefore he ſhould never hallow them amiſſe, nor without good cauſe. And if he would have his hounds come in to him, to make them go into ſome grove or covert, let him hallow thus, crying, "*Here haw, here, haw, haw!*" And when the hounds are come in to him, let him take ſome faire muſe or gappe to paſſe in at, and then let him caſt a cruſt of bread, or ſomewhat to make them go in the more willingly, crying, "*Covert, Covert, hicke in hicke,*" &c. Here I will diſcover

cover unto you two ſecretes. Whereof that one is, that he which hath a kennel of young hounds to enter, he muſt mark well the country when he will make them their firſt quarrey, and whereof he will make it. For, according to the places where they ſhall be entered at the beginning, and according to the quarrey which you ſhall give them they will always afterwards prove. And therefore if at the firſt when you enter young hounds, you accuſtom them to be uncoupled in the plain champaine, and that they hunt there an *Hare* to the forme and ſtart her, they will remember it all their life after. And then whenſoever you uncouple them in a covert, they will make no great haſte to hunt there, but will ſeeke to hunt out into the plaines, and ſuch places as they have

have been accuſtomed to in hunting of the *Hare*. Even ſo will they beſt love the covertes if they be firſt entered there, and have found game therein. And therefore it is requiſite to enter your hounds in the countrey, where you meane to abide and to hunt moſt commonly: for hounds once accuſtomed to a place or kind of chace, will not willingly hunt otherwiſe. Another ſecret is, that you never enter nor accuſtome your hounds at firſt to hunt in the mornings, becauſe of the dew and moyſture of the earth. For if you once enter and accuſtome them to hunt in the freſh moyſture, if afterwards you bring them on field in the heate of the day, and that they once feele the heate of the ſun, or ſome dry wind, which hath drawn up the moiſt dew from the ground,

ground, they will neither hunt, nor call on willingly, but will run to ſeek the ſhadow, and there to reſt them and ſleepe. Therefore I hold it beſt to accuſtome your hounds to be entered and hunted withall, in the heighth and heate of the day, rather than in the morning. And the beſt ſeaſon to beginne to enter your young hounds, is in October and November, for then the time is temperate, and the heats are not vehement: and then alſo young *Hares*, which have not been hunted, are fooliſh and are neither of force nor capacitie to uſe ſuch ſubtilties and policies, but hold on endways before the hounds moſt commonly: and do ſquat and ſtart againe often times, the which doth much encourage the hounds, and doth much better enter them, than if they ſhould

ſhould flee into another quarter far before them. True it is, and a thing often proved, that an *Hare* hath greater ſcent, and is more eagerly hunted by the hounds, when ſhe feedeth and relieveth upon green corne, than at any other time of the year. And yet alſo you have ſome *Hares*, which naturally give greater ſcent than ſome others, and are much more eaſily hunted and chaced by the hounds. As theſe great wood *Hares*, and ſuch as are foule and meſled and keep neare to the waters. But the little red *Hare* which is (in manner) like a Coney in bigneſſe, is neither of ſo ſtrong a ſcent, nor yet ſo eagerly hunted by the hounds as other *Hares* be. Such as feed upon the ſmall branches of wild time, or ſuch like herbs, are commonly very ſwift, and will ſtand long

long before the hounds. So have you ſome *Hares* more ſubtle and crafty than ſome others are, eſpecially the females, for they double and turn ſhorter than the Buckes do, and that pleaſeth the hounds but a little. For it is grievous to hounds that are luſty and eager, to turne ſo often, becauſe they like better a chace which fleeth before them endways, ſo that they may run with all their force.

And for ſuch *Hares* as double and croſs ſo often, it is requiſite at default to caſt the greater compaſſe about, when you beat to make it out. For ſo ſhall you find all her ſubtilties, and yet need to ſticke upon none of them, but only where ſhe went onwards: for ſo doing you ſhall abate the *Hare's* force and conſtrain her to leave doubling and

and croſſing. Some *Hares* will hold the high beaten waies only, where the hounds can have no ſcent, becauſe there is neither bough, leafe, nor any moyſt place wherewith the *Hare* might leave ſcent of her body, the which ſhe muſt needs leave if it were in woods, corne, high graſs, or ſuch other moyſt and coole places. And therefore when a huntſman ſhall find ſuch an *Hare*, and ſhall ſee his hounds at default upon an high way, let him hunt on with his hounds ſtill all alongſt the way, untill he find where the *Hare* hath broken from the way, or untill he finde ſome ſmall dale, or freſhe place by the way where the hounds may find ſcent. And he himſelf alſo muſt look narrowly upon the ground, as he goeth, if he can find the footing of the *Hare* (which we call Pricking)

Pricking) the which he ſhall eaſily know, for the faſhion of an *Hare's* foote is ſharpe and made like a knive's point, and her little nails do always faſten upon the ground, ſo that he ſhall ſee the prickes of them in any moiſt place, or where the ground is ſoft: for an *Hare* when ſhe fleeth before the hounds, doth never open her feet nor nails in ſunder, as ſtinking chaces and vermin do, but keepeth her foote always cloſe like the point of a knife. So is there alſo certaine places and ſeaſons, in the which a hound can have no ſcent of an *Hare*, as in the winter ſeaſon, in the plaine champaigne countries, where the ground is fatte and rotten: and the *Hare* (having an heavie foot) when ſhe fleeth before the hounds, the uppermoſt of the earth and ground ſticketh

ſticketh upon the ſole of her foot, ſo that ſhe carrieth it away with her, and that covereth and taketh away all the ſcent from the hounds: and againe, in ſuch plaines there are no branches nor twigges which ſhe might touch with her body and ſo leave ſcent thereby. Againe, there are certayne moneths in the which a hound ſhall have no ſcent or very little of an *Hare:* as in the Spring time, by reaſon of the vehement ſmell of the ſweete flowers and heaths, which doth exceed the ſcent of an *Hare*. Likewiſe you muſt take care that you hunt not in hard froſt, for ſo your hounds ſhall ſurbaite their feet and looſe their clawes, and yet at that ſeaſon an *Hare* runneth better than at any other, becauſe the ſole of her feet is heavie. You ſhall uſe in manner the ſame

ſame termes and words to encourage your hariers, that you uſe to encourage your Bucke Hounds, and ſuch as you hunt any deare withal. Againe, remember that whenſoever you enter your young hounds, you never helpe them to kill the *Hare* with your Greyhounds, for if you accuſtome to courſe the *Hare* with your Greyhounds before the hounds, then whenſoever you ſhould Hallow, the hounds would do nothing but lift up their heads, and looke always to ſee the *Hare* before the Greyhounds, and will never put noſe to the ground nor beat for it, nor hunt. But your beſt entering of young hounds, is by the helpe of old ſtaunch hounds, which may beſt learne to caſt for it at a doubling or default.

At

At what time of the Year is beſt hunting of the Hare, *and how to ſeeke her, ſtart her, and chace her.*

THE beſt ſeaſon to hunt the *Hare* with hounds, is to begin in the middeſt of September, and to leave at mid Aprill: and that becauſe of the flowers and vehement heates which beginne after Aprill and take alway the ſcent of the *Hare* from the houndes. Then in September the huntſman ſhall begin to give rewards unto his Hariers, and to renew their hunting of that chace. For as I have ſaid, at that time *Hares* be young and feeble, and as the ſeaſon paſſeth, ſo their force encreaſeth: even ſo your hounds the more that they hunt, and the

the more quarries that they have, the better, ſtronger and perfecter they become. And againe, when the winter approacheth, the moiſtneſſe and coolneſſe of the earth encreaſeth, the which hounds do delight in rather than in great heat. When your hounds are two years old and upwards, you may hunt them thrice in a week, and they will be the better. When a Lord or a Gentleman will go on hunting, the huntſman muſt regard the time and place where he ſhall be, to the end he may go ſeek the *Hare* where moſt likely hunting is; as in the paſtures, meades, or green fields, and ſuch like: and there he ſhall uncouple his hounds: and if there be any hound which light upon the trayle of an *Hare*, where ſhe hath relieved that night, let the huntſman ſtay

ſtay and be not over haſtie, untill the hounds make it out of themſelves, and when he perceive that they begin to draw in together and to call on freſhly, then let him comfort them with wordes and name that hound which hunteth beſt, as to ſay, "*Hyke to Finder, Hyke,*" &c. It is moſt certaine that hounds will have better ſcent of an *Hare* when ſhe goeth towards the relief, than when ſhe goeth towards her forme, yea, although ſhe goeth ſooner to the one than to that other: and the reaſon is, that when an *Hare* is in the field and relieveth, ſhe coucheth low upon the ground with her body, and paſſeth often times over one plot of ground to ſeek good feed, whereby ſhe leaveth great ſcent of her upon the graſs or blades, and croteyeth alſo ſometimes: and

and therefore the hounds have greater ſcent of her than when ſhe goeth out of the field, (or out of the corne or high graſs at leaſt) to go to her forme: For when ſhe goeth to her forme, ſhe doth commonly beat the high ways (as before ſaid) doubling, croſſing, and leaping as lightly as ſhe can. Wherefore when a huntſman ſeeth his hounds croſſe where a *Hare* hath relieved, and that they begin alſo to make it on unto her going out towards her forme, let him ſuffer his hounds to hunt faire and ſoftly, and haſten them not overmuch for over-ſhooting of it: if his hounds fall at default then is it a token that the *Hare* hath made ſome double or ſome croſſe, or that ſhe hath gone and come back againe by one ſelf ſame way: then

then ſhall he cry *Haw Haw again*, *Here againe Haw*, and ſhall not ſtirr any further forwards, for if he come too near the hounds, it would rather make them to overſhoot it. But let him ſo ſtay them and make them beat for it, comforting them and cheering them with wordes and with his voice, and beholding how they hunt and beat for it. But if they cannot make it out upon the high ways, then let him caſt round upon the freſheſt and greeneſt places, and ſuch as are moſt commodious for the hounds to take ſcent upon, for by that means at laſt he ſhall make it out which way the *Hare* is gone into ſome grove or ſpring: and then his hounds may alſo beat the groves, and he himſelf muſt alſo beat the tufts and buſhes with his hunting ſtick, to help the

the hounds to ſtart her. And if he chance to find an old Forme, he muſt take ſome reward out of his wallet and caſt in the ſaid old forme and call in the hounds into it, crying—" *Here, Haw, here ſhe ſat, To her againe.*" The Huntſman ſhall do well alſo to have a piece of the fat of Bacon or ſuch like thing in his wallet, wherewith he may anoynt the end of his hunting ſtaffe, and then whenſoever he would point his hounds to a muſe, or to any place, he ſhall need to do no more but ſtrike on the ground with the end of his ſtaffe, and his hounds ſhall go through the muſe, or come into any place where he ſhall point them and hunt it much the better. But if the huntſman when he hath caſt about, doe not find that the *Hare* is gone out beyond the com-

paſſe

paſſe that he caſteth; then let him call back his hounds to the place where they firſt came at default and let him conſider which way it ſeemed that the *Hare* bent her head when ſhe came into that way or place, and if ſhe held on head, then let him beat with his hounds ſtill onwards on both ſides of the way: for oftentimes the *Hare* followeth the high ways very farre, to double, croſs and uſe pollicies and will never ſtep from the way in a mile together: and in ſuch places the hounds can have no ſcent, by reaſon of the duſt and other ſuch things as I have before alledged, and yet they will ſquat upon the very outſides of the waies or very near them; and therefore let the Huntſman beat the ſides of the high waies well. But if all theſe pollicies cannot help

help the hounds to make it out, then may the huntſman well judge that the *Hare* hath turned backwards upon the hounds: and then let him take him his compaſſe greater and beat back with his hounds, and it ſhall hardly be poſſible but at the laſt he muſt make it out. And yet ſome *Hares* there be that will ſit until you tread upon them before they will riſe, and ſome will be taken in the forme: Now although I have ſo much ſpoken in the praiſe of trayling of an *Hare* from the reliefe to the forme, yet me thinks it is more paine than needeth, and leſs pleaſure than might be deſired; becauſe the hounds while they trail do call on but coldly one after another, and that it ſhould be much ſhorter and better paſtime to ſeek and find her as followeth.

When

When three huntſmen are met and perceive that their hounds do find where an *Hare* hath relieved in ſome faire corne field or paſture. Then muſt they conſider the ſeaſon of the year and what weather it is: for if it be in the ſpring time or in the ſummer, then a *Hare* will not ſit in the buſhes, becauſe of theſe piſſemires. Tikes, and ſometimes ſnakes and adders will drive them out: then they are conſtrained to ſit in the corn fields, or fallow fields and open places. In winter they love to ſit near the Town ſides in ſome tuft of brambles or thornes: eſpecially when the wind is either Southerly or Northerly, for they feare both thoſe winds exceedingly. Then, according to the place where the *Hare* ſhall wont to ſit they ſhall beat with their hounds to ſtart her at firſt: and uſing

uſing that means, they ſhall find more *Hares*, and have ſhorter ſport than in trailing after them, as before ſaid: and they may ſo enter their hounds that as ſoon as they begin to beate the buſhe with their hunting ſticks, the hounds will in and ſtrive who may firſt get in like Spaniels at retrife of a partridge. And when the *Hare* is ſtarted and on foot, then let the huntſman go where he ſawe her paſs, and hollowe in all the hounds untill they have all undertaken it and go on with it in full crie: Then let him rechate to them with his horne, and comfort them every way he can beſt deviſe: and when he perceiveth that they are in full cry, let him follow faire and eaſily, not making over much haſte at firſt, nor making too much noiſe eyther with horne or voice: for

for at the firſt the hounds ſhall eaſily overſhoot a chace through too much heat: and therefore if the Huntſman overlay them, he would but chafe them more, which might cauſe them to overſhoot it and to looſe it. But when they have run the ſpace of an hour, and that they are well in with it, and ſtick well upon it, then may the huntſman come in nearer to his hounds, becauſe by that time their heat ſhall be well cooled and they will hunt ſoberly. Above all things let him obſerve the firſt doubling that the *Hare* maketh, as I have before ſaid, and thereby he may governe himſelf all the day: for all the reſt that ſhe will make will be like unto it: and according to the policies that he ſhall ſee her uſe, and the place where he hunteth; he muſt make

make his compaſſes great or little, long or ſhort, to help the defaults, always ſeeking the moiſteſt and moſt commodious places for the hounds to ſcent in. There are two manners of hunting of an *Hare*, for ſome follow and never hollow before the *Hare*, nor after her, nor never help hounds at default: And me thinks that this is a noble kind of hunting, and doth more ſhew and prove the goodneſs of the hounds; others again do mark which way a *Hare* bendeth at the firſt, and coaſt before her to meet her, and there hallowe amaine, and help the hounds alſo at defaults as much as they can. When hounds are hunted with in this ſort, they become ſo light of beliefe that many times they leave the right track to go into the hallowe, and by that

that means the *Hares* can ſtand up but a while before them. And ſurely he that would hunt to kill many *Hares*, ſhould do beſt to hunt this kind of way, but to try the good hunting of hounds, I do more praiſe that other way, which hunteth only upon the foote and ſcent: but this latter way is ſpeedy, and beſt countervaileth the ſubtilties of an *Hare*. I could have ſtood longer in deſcribing the means how to breathe and enter Harriers, but becauſe I have both ſpoken ſufficiently in the hunting of an Hart, and alſo in theſe chapters before, which treat of the policies and ſubtilties that *Hares* uſe, whereby a huntſman may find precepts ſufficient to govern himſelf, therefore I will now ſay no more on that point.

How

How you ſhall reward your Hounds, *when they have killed an* Hare.

WHEN your hounds have killed the *Hare*, let the varlet of your kennel cut down ſome prettie bending wands of an Hazle or ſome ſuch tree, and then let him take the *Hare* and laie her in ſome faire place upon the graſſe: then let the huntſman alight from his horſe, and blow the death to call in all the hounds: that done, the varlet of the kennell ſhall keep off the hounds with thoſe little wands, and let them all baye about him. The Huntſman ſhall blow ſtill a good while, and afterwards ſhall clappe and ſtroke his beſt hounds on the ſides, and ſhow the *Hare*, ſaying: *Dead, boys, dead.* Then

Then let him hulke her (which is to open her and take out her garbage) and afterwards ſtrip off her ſkin before the hounds, taking away the gall, the lights and the ſkin, the which he ſhall hang up in ſome tree, where the hounds may not eat them—for they will make them ſick. When the *Hare* is thus Hulked and ſtripped out of her ſkinne, let the huntſman take out of his wallet ſome bread, cheeſe, and other ſmall morſels, and put them into the hulke of the *Hare*, to wet and moiſten them with her blood: then ſhall he cut-off the fore part of the *Hare* head and all: and yet if he have any young hound which is fearful, let him give him the *Hare's* head by himſelf for to encourage him the better—then muſt the varlet of the kennel tie a cord to the fore quarters of

of the *Hare* in five or ſix places, that one dog may not tear away all at a mouthfull, and ſo beguile his fellowes. This being done, he ſhall blow that all the hounds may come in together, and ſhall ſuffer them to eat this reward, clapping them upon the ſides, comforting of them and blowing with his horn. In meane while when the huntſman blow his horn, the varlet of the kennel ſhall rate and turn all the hounds unto him, ſaying: "*Lyſt Hallow, hyke hallow, hyke.*" When the hounds have eaten all of the *Hare*, the Huntſman ſhall carry them to the water before he couple them up again, or rather let him carry them home uncoupled, that they may ſkoure at large and ſkommer: for a hound will be inclined to be ſickly when he hath eaten of a *Hare's* fleſh.

And

And therefore let him give them bread after they have eaten the reward, to cloſe up their ſtomachs withall, and leaſt they ſhould caſt it up againe.

The Hare to the Hunter.

Are minds of men become ſo voyde of ſenſe,
That they can joye to hurt a harmleſſe thing?
A ſillie beaſt, which cannot make defence?
A wretch, a worm that cannot bite nor ſting?
If that be ſo, I thank my maker then
For making me, a Beaſt, and not a man.

The Lion licks the ſores of wounded Sheep
He ſpares the prey, which yields and craveth grace;
The dead mans corpſe hath made ſome ſerpents weep,
Such ruth may riſe in beaſts of bloody race:
And yet can man, which bragges above the reſt,
Uſe rack for ruth? can murder like him beſt?

This

This ſong I ſing in moan and mournful notes
Which fain would blaſe the bloody mind of man
Who not content with Harts, Hinds, Bucks, Roes,
Goats,
Boars, Bears and all that hunting conquer can,
Muſt yet ſeek out, me ſilly harmleſs *Hare*, [care.
To hunt with hounds and courſe ſometimes with

The Hart doth hurt (I muſt a truth confeſs)
He ſpoileth corn, and bears the hedge adown:
So doth the Buck, and though the Roe ſeem leſs,
Yet dothe he harm in many a field and towne:
The climbing goat doth pill both plant and vine,
The pleaſant meads are rooted up with Swine.

But I poore beaſt whoſe feeding is not ſeen
Who break no hedge, who pill no pleaſant plant,
Who 'ſtroy no fruit, who can turn up no green,
Who ſpoil no corn, to make the ploughman want,
Am yet purſued with hound, horſe, might and main,
By murdering men, until they have me ſlain.

So Ho! ſaith one as ſoon as he me ſpies,
Another cryes *Now*, *Now!* that ſees me ſtart,
The hounds call on, with hideous noiſe and cries,
The ſpur gall'd Jade muſt gallop out his part:
The

The horn is blown, and many a voice full ſhrill
Do whoop and cry, me wretched Beaſt to kill.

What mean'ſt thou man, me for to purſue,
For firſt my ſkinn is ſcarcely worth a plack,
My fleſh is drie, and hard for to endew,
My greace (God knoweth) not great upon my backe,
My ſelf, and all that is within me found
Is neither, good, great, rich,fat, ſweet nor ſound.

So that thou ſheweſt thy vaunts to be but vain
That bragg'ſt of wit, above all other beaſts,
And yet by me, thou neyther getteſt gayne,
Nor findeſt food, to ſerve thy glutton feaſts.
Some ſport perhaps: yet "*grievous is the glee*
Which ends in blood," that leſſon learn of me.

THE END.

C. WHITTINGHAM, CHISWICK.